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set so well as in the former part of the year; in short the inflammation is not, as in the spring, seated in that membrane which covers the lungs, and lines the cavity of the chest, but it resides in the substance of the lungs themselves, or more commonly in the membrane which lines the organ of voice, or its continuation the wind-pipe, the air-tubes and terminating air-cells of the lungs. Thus, it is seen, that the inflammatory diseases of autumn belong chiefly to the lungs, and we therefore meet with hoarseness, influenzas, and other sneezing colds, loss of voice, convulsive coughs, and diseases which put on the appearance of croup; whilst in spring, although cases of similar disease sometimes occur just as the spring-form of chest complaints is occasionally met with in autumn, the majority of cases, as we have before said, put on a very different appearance. Of course more care is required to avoid these dangerous complaints than is necessary in the month of September, and the caution is more particularly applicable to the case of very old or very young subjects. The asthmas of old people are closely allied to the forms of chest complaint, of which we have spoken: and with regard to children, it is now that we meet with those hoarse influenza-like colds, which run through whole families without even permitting the elder branches to escape.—The adoption of much warmer clothing, and thus preventing the skin from being too much and too suddenly chilled, and the use of fire as soon as the mornings and evenings become uncomfortably cold, form, perhaps, the best preservative against the attack of diseases, such as have been described above.

But this is perhaps the time when our forefathers bled and took physic. The practice, although it is now much neglected, was assuredly beneficial to many persons; yet as far as our experience has gone, it is more useful in spring when the body is braced up to its highest pitch of tone than at the fall of the year, when it may be considered to be somewhat enervated by the relaxing effects of the preceding hot weather, and the increase of innutritious food by which it was accompanied. On the whole, therefore, violent evacuations are not to be recommended in autumn.

#### AMUSEMENT AT PARTIES.

Music is a very delightful thing, but at large parties it is seldom enjoyed—it is, however, the order of the day.—Certain it is, that of the great overpowering number of persons collected to listen to it, there is not one in twenty qualified to judge even of vocal, much less of instrumental music; indeed a lesson of the finest composer played with exquisite taste and execution, I have often found the general *dechainment* of tongues—even those who were silent before talked then, by the same sort of secret sympathy which swells the notes of the canary bird in his cage, to overpower the conversation—a circle is formed round the instrument, talking *a qui mieux mieux*. Large parties would prove more pleasant if the sphere of amusement were enlarged—there might be liberty to sit and converse. If reading was cultivated as an *accomplishment*, it might be made to contribute much to the entertainment—*short* passages either humorous or pathetic. From the yawning and stretching, as well as the opposite symptoms of restlessness and impatience displayed at parties, it would seem that we have not yet discovered the secret of combining engagement with pleasure, and of making the passage of time imperceptible by a well devised succession of interesting amusement.

In small circles *conversation* might, if rightly understood and assiduously cultivated, be made the instrument of very superior gratification; but few persons possess that spring of mind which flows always abundantly, and sometimes to waste, with knowledge, temper, and discretion in the perfection essential to conversation; few combine the happy art of repressing themselves and of exciting others—of preserving harmony, and at the same time of exciting discussion—of keeping back disagreeable subjects and making the best selection of those that are agreeable—and of sustaining pleasantry without stumbling into rudeness and personality. Some ingenious woman (for they know more of the matter than men) could write a treatise upon this subject, and give lively instances of the

good, bad, and indifferent styles. If it were done with spirit, humour, and good sense, it would certainly prove more amusing as well as instructive than *craniocopy* or *ninemonics*. Swift has made the way easy by his polite conversation, and rendered one chapter unnecessary—that on truisms, vulgarisms, and cant phrases.

#### SYNONYMY.

It is essential to the thorough knowledge of our language, to be able to distinguish accurately between words generally considered synonymous;—upon this, strength, perspicuity, and elegance of style, materially depend; and what follows (which has been chiefly suggested by the Abbé Girard's celebrated *Synonymes François*) is given in the hope of exciting some of our correspondents to join with us in the endeavour to fix the true significations of words, and their appropriate application.

##### SELF-SUFFICIENT, IMPORTANT, ARROGANT.

The self-sufficient man goes a step beyond the *self-possessed*, and is, consequently, more apt to fall into error—his judgment may be strong, but is seldom well-regulated, and is generally dashed with vanity. The important man superadds somewhat of pride to an over-weening estimate of his own powers, and is something like gold-lace upon an old fashioned scarlet waistcoat. The arrogant man has almost always some spice of badness of heart in his disposition, which betrays itself in the despotism of his opinions. We avoid the self-sufficient, laugh at the important, and detest the arrogant. The first are found, in considerable abundance, in the professions called liberal, the second in public offices, and the third amongst the race of minute philosophers, of the Scotch school particularly, who moot inconceivable points, of which I shall give one specimen, more for the sake of recording Dr. Johnson's opinion, than of stating the subject matter of discussion, which was no less important an inquiry, than whether so many human creatures would now be on the face of the earth, if existence, instead of being imposed upon them, had been at their option. Much of this, Johnson, in reply to one of these sages, said, would depend upon the place of birth, and that he believed if that spot were *Scotland*, the option would be easily decided, and the ranks of the human race thinned beyond all possible computation.

##### TO IMITATE—TO COPY.

The first is generally a mark of quickness of mind, the second of barrenness—imitation is employed upon useful subjects; copying on comparatively trifling ones. We may imitate a man's virtues, or his style, or his politeness; but we copy his foibles, the eccentricities of his manner, or the peculiarities of his dress;—imitation terminates often in improvement, copying in still inferior mediocrity, and places the individual in the abject class of mimics, nine in ten of whom go out of themselves, without going into other people. On the stage, except Garrick, no mimic ever was a good actor, upon this very principle; for the intelligent performer endeavours to imitate general nature, and not to copy her in detail. Garrick sought in Bedlam for many of his traits in Lear, and Foote abused the hospitality of a Welsh gentleman's family, to glean the absurdities of Cadwalader. This marks the minds of the two men, and kept Foote in the trammels of buffoonery, though he had received a liberal education, while Garrick reached the summit of his profession, and was an ornament to it.—The Chinese are servile copyists, and are behind every other nation in proficiency in art and science. The savages of Botany Bay are most expert mimics, yet the greatest savages on the face of the earth, without religion, laws, or even the vestige of social institution.

##### RESEMBLANCE—CONFORMITY.

These are terms which designate the existence of the same qualities in different subjects, but the first refers chiefly to corporeal coincidences, the latter to intellectual—there is a resemblance between features, and a conformity between minds.

##### INEQUALITY—DISPARITY.

These terms denote a difference, the first in quantity, and the second in quality. There is an inequality be-